

The Ogden Standard

Established 1870.

An Independent Newspaper, published every evening except Sunday, without a muzzle of a club.

HOW THE PRICE OF COAL CAN BE REDUCED

Our morning contemporary, as the apologist for the Utah Fuel company and the Denver & Rio Grande railroad, continues to harp on the price of coal in Ogden as compared with the price in Salt Lake City.

When the local dealers raised the price of coal from \$5.75 to \$6.50 The Standard was as indignant as the average consumer, but, before making an attack on the coal dealers, this paper started an investigation resolved to correct whatever abuse might be discovered.

We found the price of coal at the mines had been raised 60 cents a ton, except at the extensive properties of the Utah Fuel company in southern Utah. Further probing disclosed that while the Utah Fuel was pretending to supply coal to Ogden at 60 cents a ton less than the independent mines and the operators in Wyoming, very little coal from the Denver & Rio Grande properties was being received in Ogden. Salt Lake was fairly well supplied, or at least sufficient Utah Fuel coal was being unloaded on that market to drive all independent dealers to close their yards or hold on from day to day hoping to get relief.

The conditions were suggestive of an attempt on the part of the Utah Fuel to crush competition in a market which offered a short haul for the Denver & Rio Grande and allowed a nice margin to the railroad, even though its auxiliary, the Fuel company, failed to produce a profit. The whole situation smacked of trust tactics, intended to drive out competition.

This was our analysis of the vexatious problem and lead to The Standard proceeding with caution. It will be recalled this paper was one of the first to demand an investigation, and Judge John E. Bagley contributed one or more articles, at our solicitation, in an effort to disclose responsibility for the raise in prices and the shortage in supply.

The Standard has reached the conclusion that the odium of the present fuel famine rests with the Utah Fuel company, and that, if that company sees fit, the price of coal can be reduced in Ogden to \$5.75.

Unless the Utah Fuel pleads that rebates secretly are being extended to Salt Lake and other coal dealers by its competitors, there apparently is no defense for the Utah coal trust.

The one thing necessary, and on which our people should insist, is that the Utah Fuel and Denver & Rio Grande deliver the required amount of coal to Ogden dealers. During the intense cold of the winter the Utah Fuel brought in to dealers in Ogden, a city of 32,000 population, less than 50 tons of coal a day, a big percentage of which was slack for large heating plants.

Now, if the morning paper is sincere in its pretended campaign, The Standard will point the way by which the paper can make a big hit with the people of Ogden. Having the ear of the coal trust and the confidence of the Rio Grande railroad, let it proceed in this manner:

Go to the Utah Fuel manager and say:

"Mr. Manager, the Examiner, as you know, has made a mess of things and has been smoked out of its hole. You must come to the paper's relief. You must supply Ogden with coal at \$2.40 in quantities to meet the demand or we are disgraced. We are pointing the finger of scorn at the Ogden coal dealers, but they refuse to shield you and are telling the whole story. They have directed the public gaze at you. Come, now, Utah Fuel, and help us make good. With you we are laboring to prevent a public utilities commission. If you desert us at this crisis, all is lost!"

HOLDING GERARD IN BERLIN.

At the head of the German government are the cleverest writers of diplomatic notes, glorifying Germany and belittling the rest of the world, to be found outside the sacred precincts of the Sultan of Turkey.

We recall that, after each outrage in Armenia, in the years gone by, a statement would issue from Constantinople, declaring Turkey to be the outraged party and calling on civilization to sympathize with the Turk.

Ambassador Gerard is held in Berlin, and the excuse offered is the mistreatment of Bernstorff in America.

and the possible harm to fall upon the Kaiser's other representatives. Americans are being detained as hostages to assure the safe return of Bernstorff and his official family.

This is a direct reflection on America's integrity and an unwarranted attack on the good faith of the American people.

Having committed more diplomatic outrages than all other nations combined, the Kaiser's followers, with a deep suspicion, evidently the outgrowth of their own bad faith, openly express distrust of our government.

The history of the United States does not disclose one act of perfidy in the treatment of foreign representatives.

Holding Gerard is an effort equivalent to an impeachment of the honesty of purpose of our officials, and should bring forth some form of reparation on the part of the United States government.

HESITATION DANCE AT THE CAPITOL.

When will the prohibition bill become a law?

The measure was passed last week and now it is in the hands of the governor, with an exchange of ideas going on between the chief executive and the house leaders as to whether the governor should proceed to veto the bill or send it back to the legislature for correction.

This can go on, first over one little defect and then another, until near the close of the session, when a makeshift measure may pass and a farce result.

The governor is well informed on every feature of the bill. He knows the sections, if any, which are objectionable to him. His duty is to sign

or reject the measure without delay. If the legislators know their own minds, they immediately will pass the bill over the governor's head or accept the veto.

This interminable delay is getting on the nerves of those who are in the liquor business, as well as the temperance people. The dealers are entitled to know without procrastination their exact status. If they are to be put out of business, notice should be given them without further shilly-shally.

CARRANZA'S ALLEGED NOTE.

General Carranza was credited with sending the Kaiser congratulations, but following the announcement came a denial from Mexican sources.

No act on the part of Carranza could be more indiscreet at this time than to intermeddle in the German affair. Americans would view the message as an open avowal of close relationship between Mexico and Germany and a bid on Carranza's part for an alliance with a power which has come to be looked on as inimical to the future peace of this nation.

Were the Mexicans to openly profess a desire for German success, the United States, as a strategic move, would be justified in making representations to Mexico, to be followed, at the first sign of obsequiousness, by vigorous disciplining of our neighbor on the south.

Don't Forget Clara Kimball Young in "Hearts Afire," Theatre four days beginning Sunday. Popular Plays and Players. Phone 3060.

HISTORY OF BREAKING DOWN OF COAL COMPETITION

In Federal Reporter, volume 173, may be found the detailed history of an almost tragic lawsuit, novel in final results, which throws a flood of light upon the present coal famine and discussion of the causes of the high cost of coal in Ogden and Salt Lake.

The law book relates the coal facts regarding the methods employed by the coal trust in putting Mr. Sharp, a Salt Lake coal dealer, out of business. Mr. Sharp occupied relatively the same position as coal dealer that Governor Simon Bamberger now occupies in the relations of his coal company and the Utah Fuel company and the D. & R. G. railroad.

Mr. Sharp heroically bucked the trust, as the record relates in detail, and was promptly wiped out of business.

Federal indictment. Mr. Sharp, exercising what he considered his free American rights, advertised an offer to supply coal at \$4.75, which was 50 cents cheaper than the prevailing price fixed by the trust.

The federal grand jury indictment relates that about July 20, 1906, the defendants, the Union Pacific Coal company, James M. Moore, its western agent, the Union Pacific Railroad company, the Oregon Short Line, and Everett Buckingham, the railroad's general superintendent, were indicted for violating the Sherman anti-trust law. The charge was that about July 20, 1906, the defendants combined to force Mr. Sharp, a retail coal dealer, out of business, to control and maintain the retail price of coal in Salt Lake, by refusing to sell or transport to Mr. Sharp any of the coal mined and sold by the company, unless he would discontinue an advertisement in the newspapers in which he offered to sell storage coal at a reduction of 50 cents per ton from the regular prevailing retail price, and by this refusal to sell to said Sharp any coal and by the refusal of said Buckingham and the railroad companies to transport any coal for him ever after July 22, 1906, Mr. Sharp was forced out of business.

How It Was Done. On July 17 Mr. Moore, the agent, commanded Sharp to discontinue his cut-price advertisement. Mr. Sharp refused. On July 18 Mr. Moore, the record states, stopped all shipments of coal to him from the mines. On July 20 Mr. Sharp complained to W. H. Bancroft, general manager of the railroad, but he obtained no relief. The railroad pretended it had no authority over the coal company, exactly like the D. & R. G. officials are doing today regarding the Utah Fuel company. Mr. Sharp went to the wall.

On the federal indictment the defendants were convicted by a jury before Judge Marshall. The people re-

joined. The press was full of it.

Action of Higher Court. Two years later the judgment was reversed on a technicality and the case was remanded for a new trial (but was never retried) by the circuit court of appeals, composed of Walter H. Sanborn of St. Paul and Willis Van Devanter of Cheyenne. Mr. Van Devanter is now on the bench of the supreme court of the United States—one of Taft's appointees.

Question: Who fixes the price of coal?

The answer is: The coal trust, operating through the railroads.

Up to Gov. Bamberger. The retail price is high because the railroad freight rates are excessive, and both the rates and the coal companies are thus controlled by the railroads.

Another question: Will Governor Simon Bamberger dare def...

...the coal trust, as did the heroic Mr. Sharp, and help put through the public utilities bill which, the Ogden students of the problem say, is the only possible chance of solving the problem?

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS

BILLS INTRODUCED

In the Senate. Senate bill No. 137, by joint committee on military affairs—Relating to national guard of Utah. Legislative reference committee.

Senate bill No. 138, by committee on appropriations and claims—Providing for classification of property by the state board of equalization. Legislative reference committee.

In the House. House bill No. 111, by Young—Relating to civil procedure in the courts. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 112, by McKinney—Relating to abolition of primary elections in cities of first and second classes. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 113, by McKinney—Relating to recall of city officials. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 114, by McKinney—Providing for increase of judges of the Third district to six. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 115, by McKinney—Relating to the practice of dentistry. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 116, by St. Williams—Relating to appropriation for roads. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 117, by Fisher—Appropriating money to pay balance on Wasatch fish hatchery. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 118, by Bywater, by request—Relating to legal holidays. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 119, by Page—Relating to physical examinations of parties to be married. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 120, by Fisher—Relating to creation of state livestock board. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 121, by Boyden—Relating to jury trials in civil cases. Legislative reference committee.

House bill No. 122, by Hecker—Relating to telephone contracts. Legislative reference committee.

House joint memorial No. 5, by Southwick—Asking congress for use of old Fort Duchesne for care of state's feeble-minded. Passed under suspension of rules.

Senate bill No. 5, by Evans—Relating to bonds for protection of persons furnishing labor and material for state buildings. Judiciary committee.

Senate bill No. 12, by Evans—Relating to land titles. Judiciary committee.

Senate bill No. 50, Stephens—Relating to investment of sinking funds. Banking committee.

Bill introduced by joint committee on military affairs provides for maintenance of national guard and empowers governor to change regulations to conform to federal laws.

"Utah, We Love Thee," Professor Evan Stephens' famous song of the state.

Corrupt practices bill read and will come up for discussion first thing on calendar this afternoon.

House. House received request from governor that it recall prohibition bill and amend it to prevent discrimination against manufacture of malt and brewer drinks containing less than one-half of one per cent alcohol. Refused to take action temporarily, but later reconsidered and requested return of bill. Representative Young strongly opposed change.

Discussion over Southwick's eight-hour law brings about clash between speaker and Representative R. E. Currier of Salt Lake, with latter explanation by representative that charges of unfair treatment by him were not aimed at rulings of speaker.

House bill No. 57, by Southwick—Extending operation of eight-hour law to sugar factories, flour mills, surface workings and mines, railroad shops and other industries, is passed.

Bill introduced by Representative McKinney abolishing primary elections in cities of first and second class and providing for recall of officers of all cities and towns.

In the Senate. Senate bill No. 13, by Wootton—Providing for compilation of laws of state. Reported as passed by lower house. Committee on engrossing and enrolling.

Senate joint memorial No. 2, by Reynolds—Relating to power-site development. Reported passed by house. Engrossing and rolling.

Senate bill No. 43, by Colton—Relating to probate matters. Reported passed by house with amendments. Laid on table until amendments ascertained.

Senate bill No. 6, Wootton—Relating to liability of inn and hotel keepers. Reported signed by speaker of house and transmitted to the governor.

Senate joint memorial No. 3, by Wootton—Relating to franking of documents of board of health. Passed by house. Engrossing and enrolling.

House joint memorial No. 1, by Young—Constitutional amendment for state-wide prohibition. Commerce

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and industries.

House bill No. 8, by Eddy—Relating to registration of pharmacists. Public health and labor.

House bill No. 57, by Southwick—Eight-hour day. Public health and labor.

House bill No. 29, by Cardon—Establishing municipal courts in cities of the third class. Judiciary.

House bill No. 34, by Paxman—Authorizing governor to convey lands in Washington county to Washington Canal company. Public affairs.

Senate bill No. 44, by Reynolds—Relating to equipment of motor vehicles. Removed from calendar and recommitted to committee on commerce and industries.

Senate bill No. 79, by Olson—Providing that state board of land commissioners may sue and be sued. Reported adversely by reference committee because of duplicate bill in lower house. Laid on table.

Senate bill No. 85, by Armstrong—Relating to appropriation for Orphans' Home and Day Nursery. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 84, by Armstrong—Relating to appropriation for mining and metallurgical research. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 86, by Armstrong—Relating to appropriation for Martha society. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 87, by Armstrong—Relating to discharge and release of sureties on official bonds. Judiciary.

Senate bill No. 88, by Armstrong—Relating to appropriation for Children's Aid society. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 89, by Armstrong—Relating to appropriation for Utah Art institute. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 90, by Armstrong—Relating to licensed abstractors. Not printed. Judiciary.

Senate bill No. 91, by Armstrong—

Relating to fees for county recorder. Not printed. Public affairs.

Senate bill No. 92, by Armstrong—Appropriation for archaeological and historical research. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 93, by Armstrong—Repealing laws requiring clerk of supreme court to furnish copies of decisions to district judges and counsel for parties in cases decided. Not printed. Appropriations and claims.

Senate bill No. 111, by Cheez—Relating to bulk sales. Judiciary.

Senate joint resolution No. 4, by Evans—Designating "Utah, We Love Thee," as Utah's official song. Adopted and transmitted to house.

In the House. H. B. No. 29, by Cardon—Relating to municipal courts in cities of more than 7,500 population. Passed.

House bill No. 43, by Paxman—Relating to transfer of land from state to St. George & Washington Canal company. Passed.

House bill No. 57, by Southwick—Extending eight-hour law to sugar factories and railroad shops and surface mines. Passed.

Senate bill No. 43, by Colton—Relating to notices in probate proceedings. Passed.

Senate bill No. 17, by Cheez—Relating to abolition of voting machines. Signed by speaker.

House bill No. 19, by Raleigh—Granting right of way to Salt Lake for street across state prison property. Sent to governor.

House joint memorial No. 5, by Southwick—Asking government for use of Fort Duchesne reservation for feeble-minded. Passed.

House bill No. 63, by McKinney—Relating to powers of county commis-

sioners. Killed on committee report, reconsidered and re-referred.

House bill No. 62, by McKinney—Relating to appointment of county engineers. Killed on committee report, reconsidered and re-referred.

House bill No. 52, by Eddy—Relating to sentences for one or more crimes and when subsequent sentences shall take effect. Passed.

House joint resolution No. 9, by Page—Relating to taxing of mines. Recommended to committee.

House bill No. 51, by Campbell—Relating to appropriation for Children's Aid society. Passed.

House bill No. 39, by Stratton-Alrey—Making appropriation to Salt Lake Free kindergarten. Passed.

House bill No. 13, by Bywater—Relating to semi-monthly paydays. Special order Tuesday.

House bill No. 24, by Currie—Relating to weekly day of rest. Special order Thursday.

Senate bill No. 9, by Bevan—Relating to sale of narcotics. Passed.

House joint memorial No. 3, by Adams—Relating to national highways connecting scenic places in Utah and Colorado. Passed.

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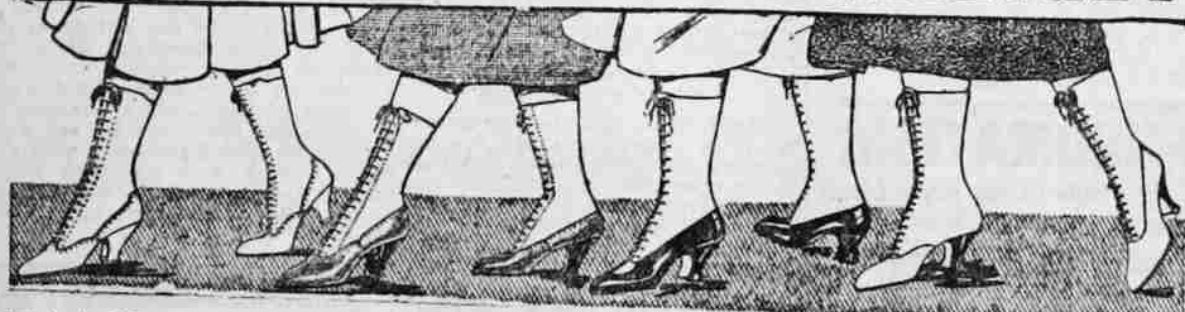
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